

The Honorable Richard A. Jones

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
WESTERN DISTRICT OF WASHINGTON  
AT SEATTLE

JONATHAN SANTIAGO ROSARIO,  
individually and on behalf of all others  
similarly situated,

Plaintiff,

v.

STARBUCKS CORPORATION,

Defendant.

No. 2:16-cv-01951 RAJ

ORDER GRANTING MOTION  
TO SEAL PORTIONS OF  
EXHIBITS 1 AND 3 TO  
DECLARATION OF TRACY  
VRCHOTA IN SUPPORT OF  
MOTION TO DISMISS

This matter comes before the Court on Defendant Starbucks Corporation's ("Starbucks") motion to seal portions of Exhibits 1 and 3. Dkt. # 17.

There is a "strong presumption" in favor of public access to court records. *Kamakana v. City & County of Honolulu*, 447 F.3d 1172, 1178 (9th Cir. 2006); Local Rules W.D. Wash. LCR 5(g). A court cannot allow documents to remain under seal unless it articulates its reasons for doing so. *Apple Inc. v. Psystar Corp.*, 658 F.3d 1150, 1162 (9th Cir. 2011) (vacating order sealing, without explanation, documents submitted in support of injunction motion). In general, the party seeking to shield litigation documents from public view must show "compelling reasons" for doing so, and the court must balance the reasons the party articulates against the public's interest in

ORDER

1 understanding the judicial process, the general preference for access and disclosure, and  
2 other policies favoring disclosure. *Kamakana*, 447 F.3d at 1178-79.

3 Starbucks has made the proper showing to support the partial sealing of these  
4 exhibits. The redacted information falls within LCR 5.2(a), and Starbucks has  
5 minimized that amount of information to be shielded from public view. Moreover,  
6 Plaintiff did not file an opposition to the motion, therefore admitting to the motion's  
7 merit. Local Rules W.D. Wash. LCR 7(b)(2). Accordingly, the Court **GRANTS**  
8 Starbucks's motion. Dkt. # 17.

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10 DATED this 25th day of May, 2017.

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15 The Honorable Richard A. Jones  
16 United States District Judge  
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